

IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~strikethrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

1. (Currently amended) A method for determining whether or not electronic mail ~~transmitting~~transmitted through a network is infected by a mail virus, said method comprising the steps of:

(a) determining whether or not a first address indicated by the electronic mail ~~transmitting~~transmitted through the network ~~is a the same as a second address for mail virus detection~~indicates a second address recorded in an address table for mail virus detection to receive the mail virus, instead of receiving a regular electronic mail,

(b) storing information concerning the electronic mail as mail virus information into mail virus information table when the first address of the electronic mail indicates the second address; and

(c) suppressing sending other electronic mail being of a same type of as the electronic mail ~~when said step (a) determines that the electronic mail indicates the second address for the mail virus detection~~including the mail virus information.

2. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising ~~the a~~ step of (c) reporting ~~the a~~ mail virus detection based on the ~~electronic mail detected~~determination in said step (a) to at least one predetermined report-to address.

3. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

(d) compressing the electronic mail detected in said step (a); and

(e) attaching the electronic mail compressed in said step (d) to a report electronic mail for reporting the mail virus detection, wherein ~~said a~~ step (c) reports the mail virus detection by sending the report electronic mail attaching the electronic mail compressed in said step (d).

4. (Currently amended) A computer-readable recording medium recorded with program code for causing a computer to determine whether or not electronic mail

~~transmitting~~transmitted through a network is infected by a mail virus, said computer-readable recording medium comprising ~~the~~ codes for:

(a) determining whether or not a first address indicated by the electronic mail ~~transmitting~~transmitted through the network is ~~a~~the same as a second address for mail virus detection, and

(b) suppressing sending other electronic mail ~~being of a same type of as~~ the electronic mail when said step (a) determines that the electronic mail indicates the second address for the mail virus detection.

5. (Currently amended) The computer-readable recording medium as claimed in claim 4, further comprising ~~the~~a code for (c) reporting ~~the~~a mail virus detection based on the electronic mail detected in said code (a) to at least one predetermined report-~~to~~ address.

6. (Currently amended) The computer-readable recording medium as claimed in claim 5, further comprising the code for:

(d) compressing the electronic mail detected in said code (a); and

(e) attaching the electronic mail compressed in said code (d) to a report electronic mail for reporting the mail virus detection, wherein said code (c) reports the mail virus detection by sending ~~the~~ report electronic mail attaching the electronic mail compressed in said code (d).

7. (New) A method for detecting electronic mail infected by a mail virus, the method comprising:

comparing a first type of a first piece of electronic mail to a second type of a second piece of electronic mail; and

suppressing a transmission of said second piece of electronic mail if said second type is substantially equivalent to said first type and an address of said first piece of electronic mail is an address for mail virus detection.

8. (New) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the mail virus information indicates at least one of values of a sender electronic mail address, a data size, a title which are shown in the electronic mail indicating the second address.